

Subject: Masonic Chapter pennies

King, Edward A.

1926-1930

[Pittsburgh, PA]

EDWARD A. KING

P. O. BOX 546
PITTSBURGH, PA.

PHONE COURT 1941

APRIL
NINETEEN
1926

Mr Henry Russell Drowne
306 W. 78th Street
New York. N.Y.

My dear Sir:-

A few days ago while visiting my friend A.B. Andrews of North Carolina, he advised me that you had at one time written him on the subject of Mark Pennies, and suggested I write you.

More than twenty-five years ago I began collecting Masonic Chapter Pennies in a small way, for my own pleasure, adding slowly to them as I had time to visit various Chapters. After coming to Pittsburgh I found that a close friend and associate also had quite a number, and while visiting the House of The Temple at Washington, we concluded that this beautiful, centrally located place was eminently the proper way to dispose of our collection for the benefit of the Royal Craft of all time, so it was given to them.

It has not yet been presented as I am preparing an illustrated book thereon and also because I still lack a few Chapters of North America. For this reason I address you thinking that out of the thousands of duplicates in my possession there might be many of interest to you, as I have purchased nearly all the large remaining collections in America. If you have duplicates I need, I will be glad to exchange with you, or else purchase outright such Pennies as I do not have.

Should this matter interest you I will be pleased to hear from you on the subject and I attach a list of references to which I might add Chas. C. Hunt, M. E. Grand Secretary R. A. M. who is located at Masonic Hall on 24th St. New York.

Thanking you for any information you care to supply and hoping to be of mutual benefit, I am

Very truly yours,

E. A. King

Peoples Bank Building. Pittsburgh.

EAK/S

*Ack and
Referred to Mr Wood
Am. Memis. Soc
HED.*

REFERENCES :

J. I. Buchanan	33° Supreme Council 33°	(N.D.) Pittsburgh, Pa.
W. S. Brown	33° Imperial Treasurer A.A.O.N.M.S.	(N.D.) Pittsburgh, Pa.
H. O. Kline	33° M.E.P.G.H.P. Penna. Peoples Bk. Bldg.	(N.D.) Pittsburgh, Pa.
Mike H. Thomas	33° Imp. Rep. Ad. Vit.	(S.D.) Dallas, Texas.
Wm. L. Boyden	33° Supreme Council 33° 16th & S.Sts.	(S.D.) Washington, D. C.
Henry T. Smith	R. Ex. Grand Scribe E. Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Canada.	Toronto.

April 21st, 1926

Mr. Edward A. King
Peoples Bank Building
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Henry R. Drowne handed me your communication with regard to Chapter pennies. We have a fairly large collection here but it has not grown very much during the past few years. We have a rough catalogue of our collection in manuscript form, listed by States, Chapters, and an indication of the metal in which the pieces were struck, but we have no detailed description of them. Unfortunately, we have not a single duplicate.

Should you desire, we should be very glad to loan you the catalogue of our collection.

Very truly yours,

Curator

EDWARD A. KING

P. O. BOX 546

PITTSBURGH, PA.

PHONE COURT 1941

APRIL
TWENTY-THREE
1926

Mr Howland Wood Curator.
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 156th St.
New York. N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

Please accept my thanks for your very kind letter of Wednesday. I appreciate your information and offer but do not think the list would be of value to me.

My reason therefor is that I lack only a few Pennies in most States, such as New York 4; Illinois 2; Connecticut 1; Massachusetts 7; New Jersey 1; California 1; Washington 3; Michigan 7; etc. Only in the South a few States are dragging badly behind. My collection now numbers more than nine thousand Pennies, including duplicates and represents between three and four thousand Chapters of North America.

The bulk of these Pennies have been presented to the Supreme Council 33° of the Southern Jurisdiction, and the balance to the Northern Jurisdiction.

One thing however I would be very glad to have your help on is relative to the articles written by Dr. B. P. Wright, at one time President of your Society, I believe, and published in THE NUMISMATIST in 1901-1903-1904. They describe and illustrate quite a number of Mark Pennies, and I have received permission from Dr Wright's son to use any of this text I wish. What I do not know is whether the publishers of THE NUMISMATIST would allow this or not, although an opinion seems to exist that none of it was copyrighted.

I have over eight hundred Pennies of distinctive dies, no two exactly alike and expect to use at least five hundred in illustrating my book on Masonic Chapter Pennies, giving the Masonic meaning of the signs, symbols and names used, with their derivation as far as possible. These books are intended only for Masonic Grand Chapters; duly accredited Masonic Libraries and the friends who have helped me in this work. I do not expect to sell them. My illustrations will be made on my own plates in groups of twenty-four, probably, and will not be reproductions of these used by Dr. Wright, excepting where they align with my other Pennies.

Any information you can give me or advise where it may be secured I will gratefully appreciate and when I am in New York again I shall take pleasure in calling to express my thanks in person.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

EAK/S ***

E. A. King

April 24th, 1926

Mr. Edward A. King
P.O.Box 546
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Sir:

In response to your letter of April 23rd, as far as I know, you would have a perfect right to use anything that appeared in The Numismatist, as I think none of the numbers are copyrighted, and the information therein is for the best interest of numismatics. We have nothing to do with this publication as it is issued by the Association and not by the Society. I would, however, advise your writing to the Editor, Mr. F. G. Duffield, 4215 Fernhill Avenue, Baltimore, Md.

If it is possible, we should greatly appreciate ^{receiving} a copy of the book which you are preparing for publication, as we have probably the largest numismatic library in the world. We possess five thousand bound volumes, and an equal number of Catalogues and pamphlets

Should you be in New York at any time, we should be most happy to welcome you at our Museum here.

Very truly yours,

Curator

EDWARD A. KING

P. O. BOX 546

PITTSBURGH, PA.

PHONE COURT 1941

APRIL
TWENTY-SEVEN
1926

Mr Howland Wood
Curator, A.N.S.
Broadway & 156th St.
New York. N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

Please accept my thanks for the information
contained in your letter of Saturday. I shall write Mr Duffield
as you suggest.

I shall gladly remember your request when our
book is complete, and meanwhile if you ever run across anything
pertaining to Mark Pennies among the many volumes you mention I
will appreciate having my attention called thereto.

I shall certainly come to see you when in New
York the next time and feel certain I will be amply repaid in
seeing the collection you have gathered in the many years your
Society has existed. If I can be of service to you at this
point do not hesitate to command me.

With kindest regards and thanks, I am

Very truly yours,

E.A. King

Peoples Bank Building. Pittsburgh.

EAK/S

EDWARD A. KING
P. O. BOX 546
PITTSBURGH, PA.

PHONE COURT 1941

SEPTEMBER
TWENTY-THREE
1927

Mr Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society
Broadway and 156th.St.
New York. N.Y.

My dear Mr Wood:-

Just a line to thank you for the courtesy extended me during my recent brief sojourn in New York. I am sorry I did not have more time as it could undoubtedly been spent to my own profit.

With pleasure I enclose the Washington medal mentioned to you. Am leaving tonight for Denver and will be absent about ten days but on my return I shall look up a few additional Mark Pennies and sent them to you.

With every good wish and thanks,I am

Very truly yours,

E.A. King

Peoples Bank Building.Pittsburgh,Pa.

EAK/S

September 26, 1927

Mr. Edward A. King,
P. O. 546,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I beg to thank you very much for the Washington medal that you sent on. Do not hesitate when you are in New York and have the time to pay us a visit.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW:MB

From E. A. King, Pgh. Pa. and
A. M. Hanauer 541 Wood St. Pgh. Pa.

EDWARD A. KING
P. O. BOX 546
PITTSBURGH, PA.

PHONE COURT 1941

Dear Companion:-

May 1930

When you receive this letter our book on MASONIC CHAPTER PENNIES will either be on its way to you, or sent within a few days. Where you receive an additional book for your Grand Chapter it is requested that it be presented to them at the next quarterly or annual Convocation. Please do this personally, if possible, and the selection of yourself to present the book is because we know you are familiar with the work over many years, and have given your own time and fraternal assistance.

Our collection and the book represent the finish of thirty years work, the last five years actively. We have gathered over 30,000 Pennies. The main collection will soon be placed in the beautiful House of the Temple, at Washington, where it will be forever accessible to the Fraternity, for whose benefit it was assembled--and to all visitors. A second collection has been formed for the Supreme Council 33^o, of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, and will be turned over to them this year.

The purpose of the collection is set forth in the book, but both were brought into being to stimulate interest in the Work, so familiar to all Royal Arch Masons, which places the finality upon the beautiful allegory and symbolism of the three Degrees of Craft Masonry. It is hoped the book will be a special help in this way and several hundred are being prepared for special presentation to every Grand Chapter, all Grand Officers who have helped in the work, many Masonic Libraries--and to eminent Masons all over the world--who have aided personally, and by their advice and fraternal assistance made the collection possible. It is further intended to make the book the first complete list of all Royal Arch Chapters of North America, both living or dead, ever published in one list or volume. Strange to say while the Royal Arch has existed on this continent nearly two centuries, no one else, so far as we know, ever attempted this before--neither an individual nor a Grand Body. Symbolic Lodges and various other Bodies have all had lists published, but not the R. A. Chapters. It is also intended to make this work a start for listing clandestine chapters, which have sprung up everywhere of late years and continue to flourish. Our listing is not perfect of course, but we feel certain more than 99% of all regular Chapters are recorded.

Once more we wish to offer thanks for the splendid assistance accorded us throughout these long years. More than 23,000 letters were sent out and the writer sent over 6000 personally in connection with this work. While most of these bore only my signature, it is only fair to state that Companion Hanauer has had just as much to do with it in every way--and more. He has been the directing head, borne most of the expense, and urged me on at times when I was about ready to say "we can't get any more". In giving credit for this humble work--if there is any merit or credit--it is my wish that it be given Companion Hanauer, and I sincerely hope this will be done. Our joint labors have been toward the one end, and now that it is completed as well as we may, we tender it to you -- dear Companions -- with the wish that it may create, stimulate and maintain a lasting interest in Royal Arch Masonry.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

E. A. King

KINDLY ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT

Peoples Bank Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Number of books sent to you 1.

June 3, 1930

Edward A. King, Esq.
P. O. Box 546
Pittsburgh, Penna.

My dear Mr. King:

The book on MASONIC CHAPTER PENNIES arrived and we are very glad indeed to have it. I very much appreciate your well remembered promise of seven years ago, to send us a copy of this work on its completion. I am going through it with a great deal of interest. Thank you very much indeed for this gift.

Sincerely yours,

Curator.